

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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MEMORANDUM

TO: MCAMLIS Steering Committee

FROM: SEWRPC Staff

DATE: May 5, 2005

SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT NO. 1 ON REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY PLAN

This memorandum sets forth the progress made on the Regional Water Supply Planning Program from January 1, 2005 through April 30, 2005. The preparation of the regional water supply plan represents the third, and final, element of the SEWRPC regional water supply management program. The first two elements, comprising the development of basic groundwater inventories and the development of a groundwater simulation model for the Southeastern Wisconsin Region, were completed over the past several years. These elements involved interagency partnership programs with the U.S. Geological Survey, the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and many of the water supply utilities serving the Region. Funding support for the third, and final, step in the planning program, the preparation of the water supply plan, was finalized and the study organization was initiated during January of this year.

Progress on the water supply plan has been focused on the study organization, advisory committee structure, and related outreach planning, and on initiation of basic study area inventories. On a separate parallel track, work has continued on the new regional land use plan for 2035 which will serve as a basis for the development of the regional water supply plan. The 2035 land use plan, which is separately funded, will be completed this summer.

STUDY ORGANIZATION

A detailed analysis of the work elements comprising the water supply plan preparation was completed. The work elements were described and a method for staffing each element was defined. It is planned to utilize a cooperative staffing arrangement involving the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) staff, consulting engineering and legal firms, and the groundwater technical staff of the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey (WGNHS), the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. The consultant selection process is currently underway.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Regional Planning Commission reconstituted the Regional Water Supply Planning Advisory Committee, originally appointed to oversee the preparation of the Regional Water Supply Planning Prospectus, with the membership being reviewed and modified, as necessary, so that all interests are appropriately represented. It is intended that this Committee will guide all aspects of the plan preparation. In addition, the means by which additional governmental and public input will be achieved has been defined. In this regard, a website link devoted to the water supply plan was placed on the SEWRPC website at www.sewrpc.org which provides information on the water supply planning program.

BASIC STUDY AREA INVENTORY

Work was initiated on collating the basic study area information needed for the plan preparation. Those data include demographic and economic, land use, natural resource, and utilities information.

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